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28 July 1965

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: Proposed NRO Agreement

1. Attached is the draft NRO agreement with amendments as discussed with Dr. Fubini underscored. Folded in are comments on the significance of the new language and, in quotation marks, the language of the original proposed agreement where deletions have been made which appear to me to be significant.

2. The net result of the change resulting from discussions with Dr. Fubini is to reduce the NRO pretty much to the status of a staff with no line responsibility (always an objective in our negotiations). Research, development and production of "sensors" (e.g., cameras) will be done by the "component of the Government best equipped" to do so (hopefully, in large measure, by CIA). Boosters, spacecraft and reentry vehicles will be generally assigned to the Air Force for development purposes. Allocation of responsibility for ongoing systems will be made prior to the execution of any agreement. (Mr. Vance has already agreed that U-2 and CORONA, including the CORONA improvement program, would be the responsibility of CIA.)

3. DDS&T feels strongly that the proposed agreement is unacceptable as the interrelationship between "sensors" and spacecraft and reentry vehicles is so close that responsibility for one is meaningless without authority to develop the other. In other words he feels that the Agency must be given authority to develop and produce the whole "payload" package which includes space and reentry vehicles as well as "sensors."

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4. I would recommend adoption of the proposed agreement provided there is prior agreement that CIA's responsibility for the following projects is recognized.

a. Operational control of the IDEALIST and OXCART programs.

b. Production and improvement of CORONA payloads.

c. [Redacted]
and

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NRO

d. Development and production of a new general search program.

[Redacted]

ILLEGIB

JOHN A. BROSS
D/DCI/NIPE

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Attachment
Draft NRO Agreement [Redacted]

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Remarks:											
<p>Attached is the draft agreement. The original is being held pending receipt of your further comments.</p> <p>cc: w/att.</p>											
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John A. Brasse D/DCI/NIFE 7E 22 38/7/65									Approved For Release 2003/12/10 : CIA-RDP77B00508R000100060017-3		
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